

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA
NOVEMBER 18, 2015**

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 610 Main Street, Jasper, Indiana.

Call to Order. Presiding Officer Mayor Terry Seitz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call.

Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm called the roll.

Mayor Terry Seitz	Present
Council members:	
Gregory Schnarr	Present
David Prechtel	Present
Thomas Schmidt	Absent
Earl Schmitt	Present
Kevin Manley	Present
Randall Buchta	Present
Raymond Howard	Present
City Attorney Renee Kabrick	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm	Present

Boehm announced that in order to have a quorum for the meeting, a majority of the council members must be in attendance. Six of the seven council members were in attendance which is a majority; therefore, there was a quorum for the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Seitz invited all those present to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes.

The following minutes were distributed to and examined by the Council:

1. October 21, 2015 regular common council meeting

A motion was made by Council member Kevin Manley and seconded by Council member David Prechtel to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

JCAC. Jasper Community Arts Commission member Robin Norris attended the meeting on behalf of the Board.

UTILITY SERVICE BOARD REPORT

Utility Service Board Chairman Rick Stradtner gave a report on the regular monthly Utility Service Board meeting held on November 16, 2015. A copy of the Utility Service Board minutes is supplied to each council member.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REPORT

Redevelopment Commission President John Bell updated the council on the Downtown Economic Development Project. He said the committee has concluded the review of RFPs for an architect and engineering firm to assist with the downtown project. He asked the council to appropriate an amount not-to-exceed \$150,000 from the EDIT Fund and then transfer those funds to the Redevelopment Commission General Fund for Phase 1 of the project. Bell said Phase 1 would consist of 30-40% of the overall design that consists of schematic designs, boundary and topographic survey, several merchant and 'town hall' meetings seeking input of design, utility assessment, preliminary design, final schematic design, soil assessment, detailed estimate of total cost of project, recommended phasing of construction and associated estimate cost for each construction phase. Phase 1 will take 4-6 months to complete.

Economic Development Commission President Andy Seger who is also a member of the Redevelopment Commission said he, John Bell, Darla Blazey and Earl Schmitt spent a day meeting with the two lead firms that were interviewed and toured some of their work. A selection of one of the two firms will be made at the December RDC meeting.

Bell asked the council to appropriate funds for Phase I at the December council meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Juanita S. Boehm said the council meeting is December 23rd and additional appropriation requests must be submitted to the Department of Local Government Finance by December 16th. Boehm recommended the council conduct a special meeting on December 11th or 14th.

The council agreed to hold a special meeting on December 11, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. to consider the additional appropriation ordinance. Bell said the Redevelopment Commission will reschedule their December 1, 2015 monthly meeting to December 11, 2015 as well.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-30 AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CITY OF JASPER, INDIANA, FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015

This ordinance transfers appropriations within a department for the 2015 budget.

A motion was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Motion carried 6-0. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Randall Buchta and seconded by Council member Raymond Howard to read the ordinance by title only. Motion carried 6-0. The city attorney so read the ordinance. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Earl Schmitt and seconded by Council member Gregory Schnarr to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2015-30. Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-31 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1997-23, ENTITLED “AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING ‘TWO HOUR PARKING’ AND ‘ALL DAY PARKING WITH A PERMIT’ IN THE CITY OF JASPER, RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE SAME AND PROVIDING FOR FINES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF”

This ordinance amends the manner in which parking ticket fines are charged and collected. The change is effective January 1, 2016.

City Attorney Renee Kabrick explained the need for the amendment to the ordinance. She said the police department wants to revise the manner in which the city parking violation fines are charged and collected. Currently there is a \$10.00 fine at the time of first notice and a \$30.00 fine at the time of a second notice which is in the form of an invoice mailed within 2-6 weeks after violation occurred.

The police department wants to eliminate having to send invoices therefore they want to change the “fines” section of the ordinance to the following:

Ten Dollars (\$10.00) if payment is received within Twenty-One (21) days from the date and time of the violation

Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) if payment is received more than Twenty-One (21) days from the date and time of the violation and BEFORE the Parking Violation is filed in court

Kabrick said the amounts of the violation are not changing. They are only changing when the violations are due.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Gregory Schnarr and seconded by Council member Kevin Manley to consider the ordinance for one reading only. Motion carried 6-0. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Gregory Schnarr and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to read the ordinance by title only. Motion carried 6-0. The city attorney so read the ordinance. Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Kevin Manley and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to pass and adopt Ordinance No. 2015-31. Motion carried 6-0.

VINE STREET LOFTS COMMITMENT

At the October 21, 2015 meeting, the council approved a local incentive commitment of \$400,000 to assist with on-site improvements for the Vine Street Lofts project.

Mayor Seitz said on October 30, 2015 he received a call from Pete Schwiegeraht with Miller-Valentine with an update on their application for Jasper Lofts Phase 2 and Vine Street Lofts. He said both projects scored very high internally.

However, he said with another \$10,000 commitment from the City, the Vine Street Lofts project would carry the maximum score possible.

Seitz said after speaking with Schwiegeraht, he began calling council members and the first four he spoke to felt this amount is a small amount to give to create the best opportunity for the application to the state. He then revised the letter to raise the City's commitment from \$400,000 to \$410,000.

Seitz said in order for this revised commitment amount to be in the minutes, he asked the council to formally adopt the change in the form of a motion.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member Gregory Schnarr and seconded by Council member Raymond Howard to revise the local incentive commitment for the Vine Street Lofts project from \$400,000 to \$410,000. Motion carried 6-0.

RESCHEDULE DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Because the December 2015 council meeting is so close to Christmas Eve, the council was asked if they wanted to move the Wednesday, December 23, 2015 council meeting to Tuesday, December 22, 2015.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to move the Wednesday, December 23, 2015 council meeting to Tuesday, December 22, 2015. Motion carried 6-0.

PROPERTY SALE

City Attorney Renee Kabrick said in response to advertising the availability of the small parcel of land [0.168 acres] on Saint Charles St., directly north of the intersection with Truman Road, the City did not receive any offers that met or exceeded the proposed price of \$2,948.00. Since that time, the City has received a purchase offer in the amount of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). Kabrick said based on the process that we've undertaken and the results, the City is now free to accept the referenced offer. Kabrick asked permission to proceed with the sale.

A motion was made by Council member Kevin Manley and seconded by Council member Randall Buchta to proceed with the sale of 0.168 acres of land for \$1,000.00. Motion carried 6-0.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Council member David Prechtel and seconded by Council member Earl Schmitt to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

The minutes were hereby approved _____ with X without corrections or clarification this 22nd day of December, 2015.

Mayor Terry Seitz, Presiding Officer

Attest: _____
Juanita S. Boehm, Clerk-Treasurer